

House  
REPUBLICAN  
Conference

# FloorPrep

Legislative Digest

Monday, May 24, 1999

J.C. Watts, Jr.  
Chairman  
4th District, Oklahoma

*House Meets at 12:30 p.m. for Morning Hour and  
2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business  
(No Votes Before 6:00 p.m.)*

*Anticipated Floor Action:*

**H.R. 974—District of Columbia College Access Act**  
**H.R. 1251—Designating the Noal Cushing Bateman Post Office**  
**H.R. 1377—Designating the John J. Buchanan Post Office**  
**H.R. 197—Designating the Clifford R. Hope Post Office**  
**H.R. 100—Designating Postal Service Buildings in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**  
**H.R. 1191—Designating Postal Service Buildings in Chicago, Illinois**  
**H.R. 441—Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act**



## **Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules**

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider the following seven bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

**H.R. 974—District of Columbia College Access Act** establishes a program to allow high school graduates of the District of Columbia to pay in-state tuition rates upon admission to state colleges outside of D.C. Specifically, the bill establishes the District of Columbia College Access Scholarship program. The fund is authorized to accept federal appropriations, gifts, bequests, and interest and must be used solely to award scholarships, with not more than 10 percent applied towards administration costs. The bill exempts the fund from all federal, state, local, and gift taxes. The bill does not in any way alter the admissions policies or standards of any university.

The bill directs graduates seeking scholarships under the program to submit an application to the mayor. All eligible students shall receive an amount equal to the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition for an eligible college outside of the District of Columbia, not to exceed \$10,000 per academic year. Eligible applicants for private institutions may receive an amount to be determined by the mayor, but not to

exceed \$3,000 per academic year. Should the amount available in the fund be insufficient to pay the determined scholarship amounts for all recipients, the amounts for each scholarship will be reduced proportionally.

The mayor of D.C. will administer the fund in consultation with the Secretary of Education and (1) determine the amount available for awarding scholarships, (2) invest the portion of the fund not used for scholarships, (3) make applications for scholarships available no later than October 1 of the preceding academic year, (4) set regulations for refunds to the fund should a recipient withdraw from an institution, and (5) enter into an agreement with a nongovernmental agency to administer the fund if the mayor deems it cost-effective and appropriate. A CBO cost estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was introduced by Mr. Davis *et al.* and was reported by the Government Reform Committee by voice vote on May 19, 1999.

**H.R. 1251** designates the post office located on 8850 South 700 East in Sandy, Utah, as the “Noal Cushing Bateman Post Office Building.” Mr. Bateman was mayor of Sandy for six years and served on the city council for 20 years. The bill was introduced by Mr. Cook and was reported by the Government Reform Committee by voice vote on May 19, 1999.

**H.R. 1377** designates the post office on 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the “John J. Buchanan Post Office Building.” Mr. Buchanan served as an Alderman for Chicago’s 10<sup>th</sup> Ward until his retirement in April 1999. He is presently on the Board of Directors of the Hegewisch Chamber of Commerce, South Chicago YMCA, SouthEast Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center, and Trinity Hospital Governing Council. The bill was introduced by Mr. Weller and was reported by the Government Reform Committee by voice vote on May 19, 1999.

**H.R. 197** designates the post office on 410 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Garden City, Kansas, as the “Clifford R. Hope Post Office.” Congressman Hope represented the 7<sup>th</sup> district of Kansas from 1927 to 1957. During his tenure, he served as chairman of the Agriculture Committee and was an advocate of the defense and military programs concerning World War II. The bill was introduced by Mr. Moran (KS) and was reported by the Government Reform Committee by voice vote on May 19, 1999.

**H.R. 100** names three federal post office buildings in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The bill designates the post office located at 2601 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street as the “Roxanne H. Jones Post Office Building.” Jones was the first African-American woman elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate in 1984. She was reelected to the Senate twice before her death in 1997. The bill also designates the post office located at 5300 West Jefferson Street as the “Freeman Hankins Post Office Building.” Hankins served in the Pennsylvania State Senate from 1967 until his retirement in 1989 and was on the boards of the Pennsylvania Higher Development Agency, Lincoln University, and the Mercy Douglas Corporation. Finally, the bill designates the post office located at 2037 Chestnut Street as the “Max Weiner Post Office Building.” Weiner was the founder of the Consumers Education and Protective Association and the Independent Consumer Party. The bill was introduced by Mr. Fattah and was reported by the Government Reform Committee by voice vote on May 19, 1999.

**H.R. 1191** names four post offices located in Chicago, Illinois. The bill designates the post office located on 433 West Harrison Street as the “Cardiss Collins Post Office Building.” Mrs. Collins represented the 7<sup>th</sup> district of Illinois and was the first African-American woman from her state to serve on Congress. During her tenure, she was active in government reform and commerce.

The bill also designates the post office located on 2302 South Pulaski Street as the “Otis Grant Collins Post Office Building.” Mr. Collins was a representative in the Illinois General Assembly for four terms and was an activist against insurance redlining, when insurance companies discriminate against people because of their ethnicity, health, or monetary situation.

The bill designates the post office located on 4222 West Madison Street as the “Mary Alice (Ma) Henry Post Office Building.” Mrs. Henry was a community activist of the care clinic in Garfield Hospital, now known as the Mary Alice (Ma) Henry Family Health Center. The clinic presently helps more than 20,000 people a year.

Finally, the bill designates the post office located at 50001 West Division Street as the “Robert LeFlore, Jr. Post Office Building.” Mr. LeFlore served in the Illinois General Assembly and championed causes concerning senior citizens and children. The bill was introduced by Mr. Davis (IL) and was reported by the Government Reform Committee by voice vote on May 19, 1999.

**H.R. 441—Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act** amends the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act to create an “H-1C” temporary visa program for registered nurses. The new program will be similar to the expired H-1A program, which granted special temporary work visas for foreign nurses to work in poor rural and urban areas. Specifically, the measure authorizes the Labor Secretary to grant 500 temporary non-immigrant visas each year to allow foreign nurses to work in understaffed offices. To assuage the concerns of those who contend that the program eliminates jobs for American nurses, the bill requires hospitals to prove that they have exhausted all attempts to recruit and retain domestic nurses before they may participate in the H-1C program. CBO estimates that enactment will have a negligible impact on the federal budget. The bill affects direct spending, so pay-as-you-go procedures apply; however, CBO estimates that the amounts involved will be substantially less than \$500,000 a year. The bill was introduced by Mr. Rush and Mr. Hyde and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on May 12, 1999.

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #15, May 21, 1999.



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